GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3902
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
URBAN AND RURAL TELE DENSITY
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the breakup of urban and rural tele-density in the country at present separately, State-wise;

(b) the place India occupies in the world in this regard;

(c) the targets prescribed for increasing the tele-density in the country;

(d) whether the targets have been set out on lower side and not in accordance with the world tele-density; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) The urban and rural tele-density in the country as on 29.02.2008 is 64.48% and 9.03% respectively. The State-wise urban and rural tele-density as on 29.02.2008 is given in the Annexure.

(b) In terms of number of telephones, India's telephone network is the third largest in the world.

(c) As per Eleventh Five Year Plan, target of 600 million telephones by end of March 2012 has been set to increase the tele-density in the country.

(d) & (e) By the end of December 2006, world tele-density was 61.01 % (latest available).The Eleventh Plan target of 600 million telephones will translate into the tele-density at around 50% in the country by the end of March 2012.